(b) if so, what is the nature of : talks held with him; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) During his recent visit to India in November, 1987, the World Bank President had expressed his appreciation of India's approaches and achievements in the field of development and poverty alleviation. His discussions also covered various international economic issues, the role and operations of the World Bank, as also its lending programme to India. The World Bank group has approved a drought assistance package for India inclusive of a US $ 350 million loan.

Relinquishing of S.T.C. Chairmanship by Shri Sudhir Mulji

*344. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the S.T.C. Chairman, Shri Sudhir Mulji has recently relinquished the post due to certain pro blems with the private intrepreneurs; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Shri Sudhir Mulji resigned from the post of Chairman, STc for personal reasons. Hs resignation was accepted by Government with effect from 8th October, 1987.

Commissions of inquiry

*345. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA;

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE;

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of expenditure incurred on each Commission of Inquiry appointed by Government and what public purpose was served by each such Com mission during the last three years and so far during the current year; 'and

(b) what are the names of the Contmissions whose reports have not been made public in public interest and whether they will be made public at a later date; if so. by when?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The information regarding the Commissions of Inquiry set up under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 by the Ministry of Home Affairs is given in the statement which is laid on the Table of the House. *[See* Appendix CXLIV, Annexure No. 106]

The requisite information in respect of other Ministries is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of tea

346. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:- Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the tea producing stales in the country; and

(b) what is the total amount of foreign exchange earned by Government throujfr exports during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIHDHA); (a) The producing States in India are, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Karnataka. In addition to these States plantation of tea has also been taken up in Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Orisste.

(b) The export earnings from tea during the last three years are as follows:—

Rs. in crores

Year	Export Earnings
1984-85	771.39
1985-86	674.25
1986-87	615.00

Demand notices issued to M/s. Voltas Ltd. by the excise department

*347. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to slate:

(a) what is the number of demand notices issued by the Centtral Excise Department to M/s. Voltas Ltd. and the amount of excise duty involved therein: :md

(b) how much of the evaded excise duty has been paid and by when the balance is likely to be paid by M/s. Voltas Ltd. after the excise raid and apology tendered by the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) 64 show cause notices have been issued to M/s. Voltas Ltd. demanding central excise duty to the tune of Rs. 20.02 crores approximately

Out of the above, 2 show-cause notices involving duty of Rs. 7.75 crores have been issued on account of searches conducted by the Department for evasion of central excise duty. These cases are under process of adjudication. No 'apology has been tendered by the company.

An amount of Rs. 1.59 crores in 9 cases has been realised so far.

Recommendation of the Chelliah Committee

*348. SHRl KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) what are the recommendations of Chelliah Committee regarding expenditure tax. and

(b) whether these recommendations have been examined by Government and any decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The Study Group on Taxation of Expenditure under the Chairmanship of Dr. Chelliah in their final Report submitted to the Government in Apri 1987, came to the conclusion that total replacement of income tax by expenditure tax would not be a practical proposition. However, to make the direct tax system more progressive and eqtiitabe, the Group has suggested that some concepts of expenditure tax be incorporated into the present income tax structure.

2. In the light of this, the substance of the recommendations of the Study Group is briefly as under:

(i) The scheme of incentives should be such that it encourages and rewards only net savings 'as far as possible, that is, if investment or saving is exempt, the disinvestment or withdrawal be brought under charge.

(ii) If deduction is allowed for making an investment, the income from same investment should not also be exempt.

(iii) While there is some justification for diverting savings to the public sector on grounds of priority, savings flowing into private sector should be extended concessional treatment to a greater extent than now so that there is a greater competition and a higher degree of efficiency.